

A NEW SPECIES OF *PLACOSCELIS* STÅL (HEMIPTERA: HETEROPTERA:
COREIDAE: ACANTHOCEPHALINI) FROM BRAZIL AND SURINAME,
AND A KEY TO THE KNOWN SPECIES

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Abstract.—One new species, *Placoscelis adustus*, from Brazil and Suriname is described, and a key to the known species of *Placoscelis* is included. A dorsal habitus illustration and drawings of antennae and hind legs are provided.

Key Words: Insecta, Heteroptera, Coreidae, Acanthocephalini, *Placoscelis*, new species, Brazil, Suriname

The Neotropical genus *Placoscelis* Stål belongs to the strictly New World tribe Acanthocephalini. Species of *Placoscelis* superficially resemble those of the well-known genus *Nyttum* Spinola but differ from them in the well-developed tylus, the ventrally armed hind femur, and the dilated hind tibiae. In *Nyttum*, the tylus is weakly developed, the hind femur unarmed, and the hind tibia is non-dilated (Dolling 1978, Dolling and Casini 1988).

Previous to this paper seven species were referable to this genus: *P. fusca* Spinola, *P. limbata* (Berg), *P. mirifica* Montandon, *P. pagana* (Burmeister), *P. plebeja* Stål, *P. rustica* Stål, and *P. semilineata* Stål. In this paper, we add one new species from Brazil and Suriname and provide a key to the known species of *Placoscelis*.

The following abbreviations are used for the institution cited in this paper: CUIC (Cornell University Insect Collection, Ithaca, New York); MNHN (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France); MNR (Museum National, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); RNHL (Rijks-

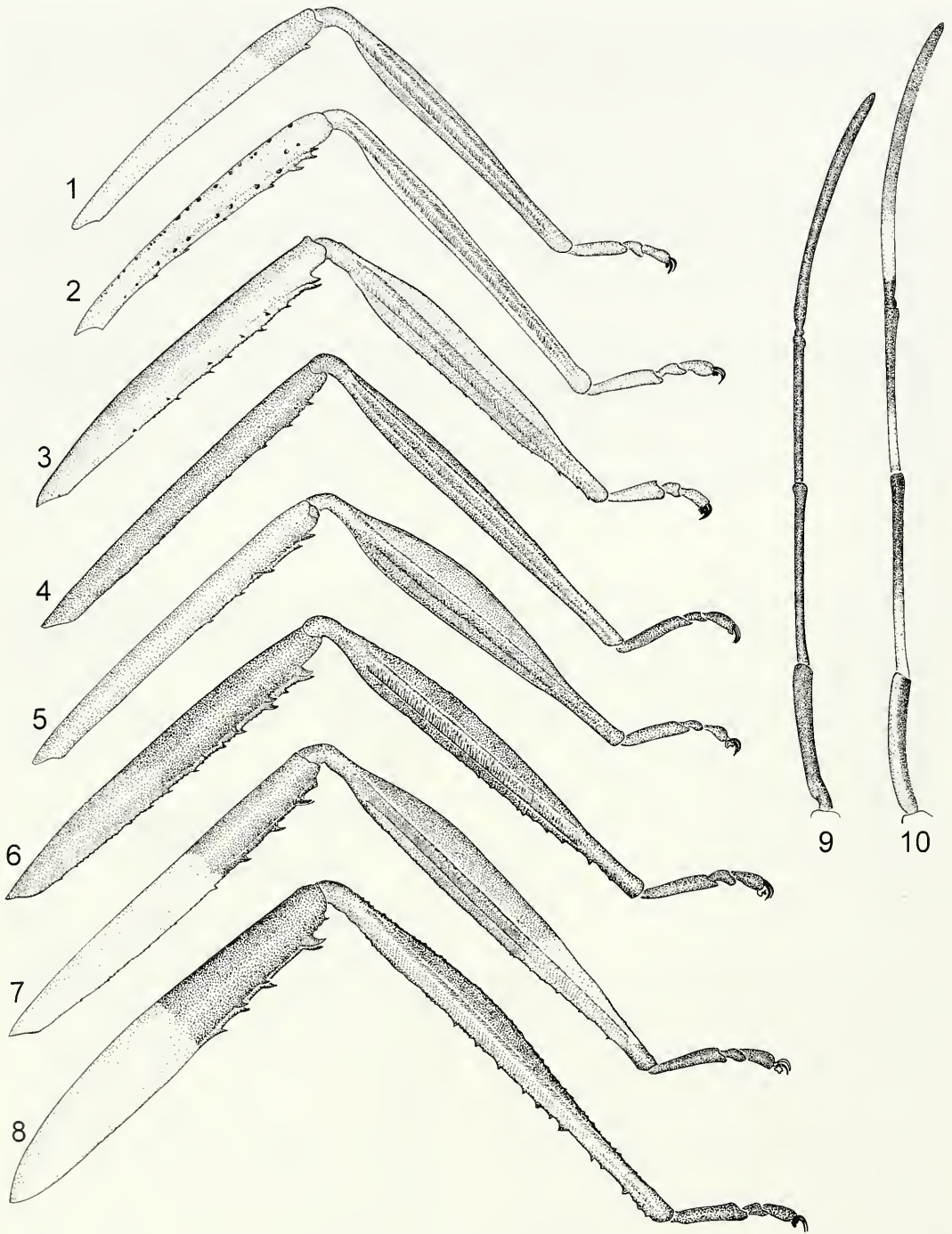
museum van Natuurlijke Histoire, Leiden, Netherlands); UNAM (Instituto de Biología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México).

All measurements are given in millimeters.

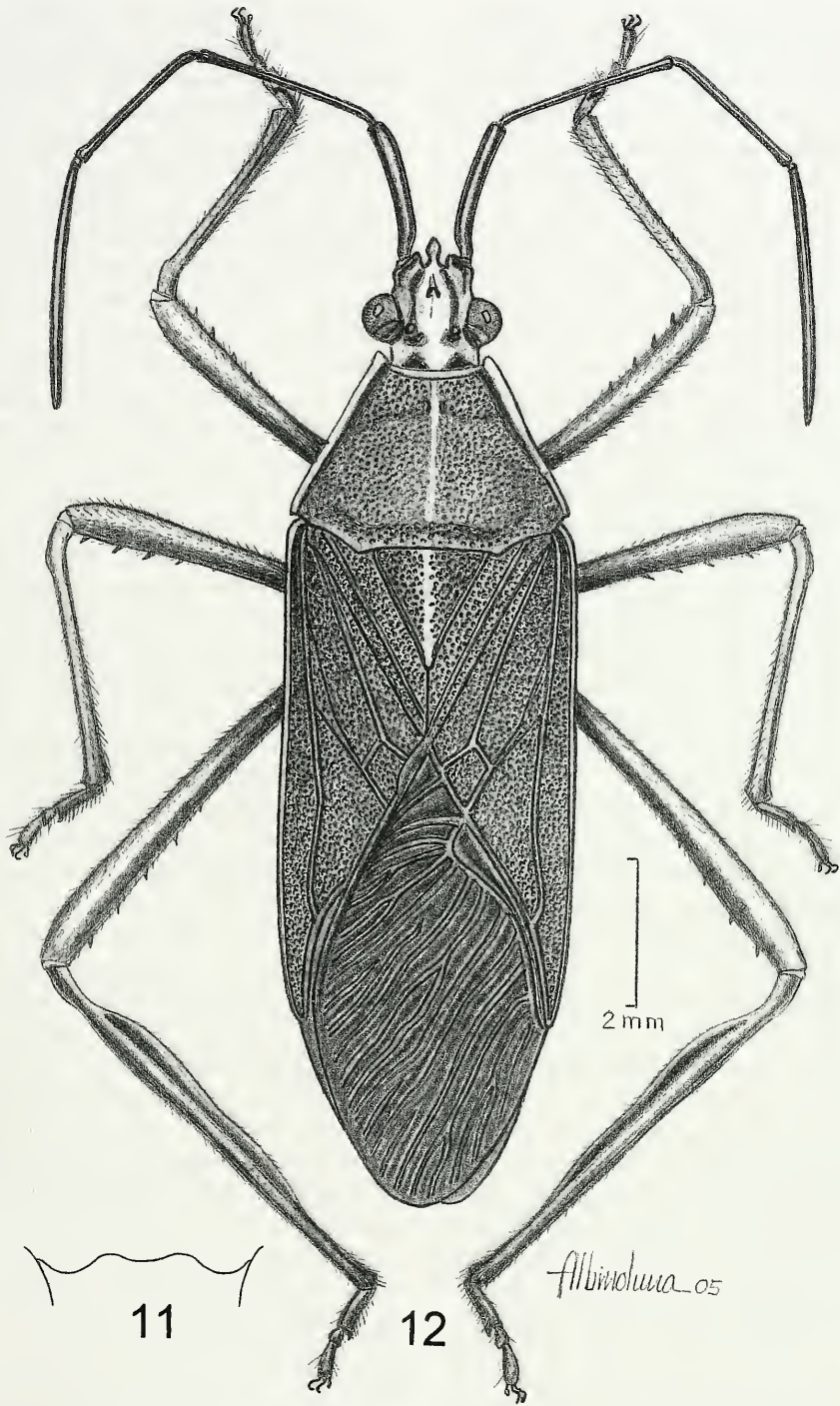
***Placoscelis adustus* Brailovsky and
Barrera, new species**

(Figs. 4, 11–12)

Description.—*Measurements:* Male: Head length 1.40; width across eyes 1.88; interocular space 0.98; interocellar space 0.49; preocular distance 0.84; length antennal segments: I, 2.32; II, 2.80; III, 2.28; IV, 3.84. Pronotum: Length 2.68; width across humeral angles 3.84. Scutellar length 1.72; width 1.64. Body length 12.15. Female: Head length 1.56; width across eyes 2.00; interocular space 1.02; interocellar space 0.51; preocular distance 0.90; length antennal segments: I, 2.56; II, 3.00; III, 2.48; IV, 4.20. Pronotum: Length 3.04; width across humeral angles 4.36. Scutellar length 2.00; width 1.96. Body length 14.27.



Figs. 1-10. *Placoscelis* spp. 1-8, Hind leg. 1, *P. limbata*. 2, *P. rustica*. 3, *P. fusca*. 4, *P. adustus*. 5, *P. plebeja*. 6, *P. pagana*. 7, *P. semilineata*. 8, *P. mirifica*. 9-10, Antennae. 9, *P. adustus*. 10, *P. plebeja*.



Figs. 11–12. *Placoscelis adustus*. 11, Male genital capsule in caudal view. 12, Dorsal view, female.

Male (holotype). *Dorsal coloration:* Head ochre with lateral margins and two short longitudinal stripes at each side of middle line black; tylus ochre with black middle stripe; antennal segments I to IV black (Fig. 9); pronotum ochre with anterolateral margins shiny orange and following areas black; punctures, inner face of each calli, and a narrowly longitudinal stripe close to anterolateral margins; scutellum ochre, with punctures black and apex creamy white; clavus dark orange red, and punctures black; corium dark orange red with basal half of costal border shiny orange, and punctures and area near costal margin black; hemelytral membrane brown with basal angle darker; connexivum shiny orange, with inner angle of posterior border black; dorsal abdominal segments black. *Ventral coloration:* Head, including buccula, dark yellow with pale brown reflections; middle third of head entirely black; rostral segments I to III dark yellow and IV dark hazel brown; propleura dark yellow with black patch near anterodorsal angle, a black semidiscoidal spot near middle third, and with punctures reddish brown; mesopleuron and metapleuron dark yellow with black patch near anterodorsal angle, two round black spots near middle third, and with punctures reddish brown; prosternum and metasternum black; mesosternum black with dark orange spot laterally flanking; anterior lobe of metathoracic peritreme black, and posterior lobe dark yellow; legs dark yellow; inner third of coxae, tarsi, and hind tibia black; abdominal sterna dark yellow with dark brown reflections, and with following areas black: middle third and posterior margin of sterna III to VII, a discoidal spot at external margins near anterior border, and rim of abdominal spiracles; pleural margins of sterna III to VII with upper border shiny orange, and inner border pale yellow; genital capsule dark yellowish brown.

Structure: Apex of tylus elevated; rostrum reaching posterior margin of mesosternum; pronotum moderately declivous; collar distinct; frontal angles projecting forward as medium-sized conical lobes; humeral angles rounded, not exposed; femora ventrally spined; fore and middle tibiae sulcate; hind tibia with weakly foliaceous expansions, uniformly lanceolate, and without emarginations (Fig. 4).

Genital capsule: Posteroventral edge elevated, convex, slightly concave at middle third, laterally with deep U-shaped concavity, and with lateral angles elevated (Fig. 11).

Integument: Body surface rather dull, almost glabrous, with short decumbent to suberect indistinct pubescence; abdominal sterna with moderately long and conspicuous bristlelike hairs; pubescence of tibiae and tarsi longer and rather dense.

Female. Coloration similar to male holotype. Connexival segments VIII and IX shiny orange; dorsal abdominal segments VIII and IX black; genital plates dark yellow, infuscate with pale to dark brown.

Variation.—1, Rostral segment IV dark yellow. 2, Anterolateral margins of pronotum pale yellow. 3, Basal half of costal margin of corium pale yellow. 4, Connexivum pale yellow with posterior border black, and sometimes inner margin also black. 5, Posterior margin of abdominal sterna dark yellowish brown. 6, Pleural abdominal margins III to VII pale yellow.

Type material.—Holotype ♂, Brazil: Manaus, km 60 INPA, 29-III-1989, G. Couturier (MNHN). Paratypes: 4 ♂, 4 ♀, Brazil: Manaus, km 60 INPA, 8-29-III-1989, G. Couturier (MNHN, UNAM). 1 ♀, Brazil: Amazonas, Serra dos Porcos, 0°25'N 69°22'W, 2-25-V-1977, Franklin and Moore (MNR). 1 ♀, Suriname: Gansee Sur, Inbos op Struik, 15-III-1959, Heyde (RNHL). 2 ♂, Suriname: Onge-

lijk, Para River, 30-IV-1927 (CUIC). 1 ♂, Suriname: Pzandevy, 3-X-1965 (RNHL).

Host plant.—Nymphs and adults were collected from *Ipomea* sp. (Batatas).

Discussion.—This new species resembles *P. fusca* Spinola in having the antennal segments black, femora and tibiae unicolorous, clavus and corium without green or blue iridescence, pronotal disk almost glabrous with short indistinct pubescence, and thorax with a black discoidal spot on the propleura, mesopleura, and metapleura.

Placoscelis fusca is more slender and elongate, with the femora and tibiae pale reddish brown and the corium pale reddish brown with the basal half of the costal margin yellow. *Placoscelis adustus* is more robust, with the femora and tibiae dark yellow, the corium dark orange red with the basal half of the costal border shiny orange to yellow, and the area near the costal margin black. The hind tibiae of *P. adustus* are narrowed, and weakly foliaceous (Fig. 4), and in *P. fusca* their are foliaceous and more widened (Fig. 3).

Etymology.—From the Latin *adustus*, for brown or dark, referring to the general color of the insect.

KEY TO *PLACOSCELIS* SPECIES

- 1. Antennal segments III and IV reddish brown with basal third yellow (Fig. 10) (Brazil) *P. plebeja* Stål
- Antennal segments III and IV unicolorous (Fig. 9) 2
- 2. Femur of each leg pale orange, with dense black dots (Fig. 2) (Brazil) *P. rustica* Stål
- Femur of each leg not orange and without black dots (Figs. 3–8) 3
- 3. Hind tibia reddish brown or black, with apical third yellow (Fig. 7) (Brazil) *P. semilineata* Stål
- Hind tibia unicolorous (Figs. 4–5) 4
- 4. Clavus and corium black with green metallic iridescence; scutellum pale yellow (Brazil, Ecuador, Peru) *P. mirifica* Montandon
- Clavus and corium without green metallic iridescence; scutellum ochre with punctures reddish brown to black 5
- 5. Pronotal disk densely covered with short upright setae; propleuron, mesopleuron and metapleuron with small black discoidal spot (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay) *P. liubata* (Berg)
- Pronotal disk almost glabrous; propleuron, mesopleuron and metapleuron with large black discoidal spot 6
- 6. Hind femur bicolorous, yellow with apical third black (Fig. 6) (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay) *P. pagana* (Burmeister)
- Hind femur unicolorous (Figs. 3–4) 7
- 7. Hind femur pale reddish brown (Fig. 3); hind tibia pale reddish brown, foliaceous and more widened (Fig. 3) (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) *P. fusca* Spinola
- Hind femur dark yellow (Fig. 4); hind tibia dark yellow, narrowed, and weakly foliaceous (Fig. 4) (Brazil, Suriname) *P. adustus*, new species

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